

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00147 01 OF 02 241244Z

45

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-01 /088 W
----- 024457

R 240955Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1197

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LUSAKA 0147

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, AO, PO, US

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH JONAS SAVIMBI

1. AMBASSADOR HAS OPPORTUNITY FOR NEARLY ONE HOUR
CONVERSATION AT EMBASSY ON JAN 22 WITH UNITA PRESIDENT
JONAS SAVIMBI. MEETING WAS ARRANGED THROUGH FWAMINY
DA COSTA FERNANDES, LONG-TIME UNITA REPRESENTATIVE
IN LUSAKA.

2. AGOSTINHO NETO. SAVIMBI SAID COALITION AGREEMENT
WITH NETO HAD BEEN ESSENTIAL. LATTER HAS LARGE
FOLLOWING WITHIN MPLA AND INSIDE ANGOLA AND
ENJOYS SUPPORT OF PORTUGUESE MILITARY WHICH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 00147 01 OF 02 241244Z

SAVIMBI CHARACTERIZED AS MOVING INCREASINGLY

TOWARD POLITICAL LEFT. SAVIMBI, WHO WAS FREQUENTLY CRITICAL OF NETO DURING CONVERSATION, INDICATED NETO COULD BE TROUBLESOME OUTSIDE COALITION WHEREAS WITHIN COALITION SAVIMBI AND HOLDEN ROBERTO COULD KEEP AN EYE ON HIM. SAID NETO DECLARED HIS INSPIRATION COMES FROM THREE FOREIGN SOURCES: USSR, CUBA, AND YUGOSLAVIA. ADDED NETO WAS DISSUADED BY OTHERS FROM INCLUDING IN STATEMENT ON ALVOR AGREEMENT THAT GOAL OF INDEPENDENT ANGOLA WOULD BE TO BECOME SOCIALIST STATE ON CUBAN MODEL. SAVIMBI THOUGHT NETO REMAINS HIGHLY DISTRUSTFUL OF ROBERTO AND SIGNED MOMBASA ACCORD ONLY BECAUSE HE, NETO, BELIEVED SAVIMBI WOULD LEAN IN HIS DIRECTION TO COUNTERACT ROBERTO'S INFLUENCE. WE INFERRED THAT SAVIMBI INTENDS BE HIS OWN MAN AND WILL NOT AUTOMATICALLY SUPPORT NETO AGAINST ROBERTO. HOWEVER, HE INDICATED HE WOULD CONTINUE TRY PLAY MEDIATOR ROLE.

3. CHIPENDA FACTION OF MPLA. SAVIMBI HAD MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF CHIPENDA IN LUSAKA ON JAN 20. SAID HE BELIEVES CHIPENDA HAS REALISTICALLY ACCEPTED HIS EXCLUSION FROM MPLA LEADERSHIP BY NETO AND WILL NOT RESPOND BY FORCE OF ARMS. PROBLEM OF CHIPENDA AND HIS FOLLOWERS WILL BE SOLVED POLITICALLY. SOME HAVE ALREADY ASKED TO REJOIN NETO'S MPLA BUT MAJORITY, INCLUDING CHIPENDA HIMSELF, ARE EXPECTED JOIN FNLA.

4. MILITARY FORCES: CONTRARY TO UNITA MILITARY STRENGTH OF 8,700 REPORTED LUANDA'S 50, SAVIMBI CLAIMS HAVE OVER 35,000 MEN UNDER ARMS. THOSE NOT ALLOCATED TO MIXED MILITARY FORCE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE IN POLICE. ANY REMAINING WILL BE EMPLOYED BY UNITA IN NON-MILITARY SERVICE ACTIVITIES.

5. PROSPECTS FOR PEACEFUL TRANSITION. SAVIMBI CONFIRMED THAT HE, NETO, AND ROBERTO WILL NOT BE MEMBERS OF TRANSITIONAL 3-MAN PRESIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 00147 01 OF 02 241244Z

COUNCIL BUT WILL DESIGNATE REPRESENTATIVES. SAVIMBI HIMSELF PLANS SPEND COMING EIGHT MONTHS IN ORGANIZING UNITA TO TAKE PART IN ELECTIONS NEXT FALL FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. SAVIMBI THOUGHT TROIKA SYSTEM WOULD WORK OUT SINCE ANY DECISION WOULD REQUIRE TWO-THIRDS VOTE TO CARRY. CONSIDERS MOMBASA AND ALVOR AGREEMENT, TOGETHER WITH REALISTIC ATTITUDE OF CHIPENDA

DESCRIBED ABOVE, WILL PERMIT ANGOLA PROPER TO
AVOID CIVIL WAR DURING TRANSITIONAL PERIOD.

6. CABINDA. SAVIMBI WAS LESS SANGUINE ABOUT
CABINDA WHERE CONFLICTING CONGO AND ZAIRE AMBITIONS
POSE IN HIS VIEW SERIOUS POTENTIAL THREAT. HE SAID
NETO IS TO WORK ON NGOUABI AND ROBERTO ON MOBUTU
TO TRY TO DEFUSE POSSIBLE MOVE BY EITHER ONE TO
ANNEX CABINDA. RE FLEC, HE FELT THAT ITS SUPPORT
WITHIN CABINDA DERIVES LARGELY FROM CABINDAN FEARS
OF MPLA DOMINANCE ONCE PORTUGUESE TROOPS WITHDRAW.
SAVIMBI FEELS MPLA HAS MADE MISTAKES IN ITS APPROACH
TO CABINDANS AND WOULD LIKE INTRODUCE FNLA AND UNITA
POLITICAL (BUT NOT MILITARY) CABRES INTO CABINDA IN
ORDER HELP REASSURE CABINDANS AND EDUCATE THEM ON
ADVANTAGES OF THEIR REMAINING PART OF INDEPENDENT
ANGOLA.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00147 02 OF 02 241249Z

45

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-01 /088 W
----- 024494

R 240955Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1198

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LUSAKA 0147

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

7. FOREIGN INVESTMENTS. ASKED FOR HIS VIEWS ON FUTURE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN ANGOLA, SAVIMBI ANSWERED FUTURE OF FOREIGN COMPANIES WOULD DEPEND PRIMARILY ON THEIR WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME WAY IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. SAID IF NETO HAD HIS WAY, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS WOULD BE NATIONALIZED. SINCE ANGOLANS THEMSELVES PRESENTLY UNABLE TO RUN INDUSTRIES SUCH AS GULF OIL

CONCESSION, IF NATIONALIZATION TAKES PLACE, OTHER FOREIGN OPERATORS WOULD HAVE TO BE BROUGHT IN. SAVIMBI INDICATED HE SAW NO ADVANTAGE TO ANGOLA FROM SUBSITUTING COMMUNIST NATIONALS FOR AMERICANS IN OIL FIELDS AND IMPLIED HE WOULD OPPOSE NATIONALIZATION. MEANWHILE, SAVIMBI SAID, AMERICAN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 00147 02 OF 02 241249Z

COMPANIES OPERATING IN CABINDA SHOULD NOT SUPPORT FLEC IN EXPECTATION THIS WOULD PRESERVE THEIR POSITION. AMBASSADOR ASSURED HIM IF IS USG POLICY TO WELCOME DECOLONIZATION THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS AND AMERICAN INVESTORS IN ANGOLA HAVE BEEN COUNSELED TO STAY NEUTRAL. LATTER ARE EXPERIENCED AND WELL AWARE OF POLITICAL FACTS OF LIFE AND ARE ASSIDUOUSLY PRACTICING NEUTRALITY.

8. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE. AMBASSADOR MENTIONED IN GENERAL TERMS USG CONSIDERING EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLA AND OTHER EX-PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES. SAVIMBI SAID AGRICULTURE SHOULD HAVE HIGHEST PRIORITY BUT TRAINING IN HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ALSO ESSENTIAL.

9. REFUGEES IN ZAIRE. SAVIMBI DID NOT SEEM OVERLY CONCERNED WITH PROBLEM OF REPATRIATION BUT INDICATED UNHCR WOULD BE CONSULTED AND HAVE MAJOR ROLE.

10. COMMENT: SAVIMBI IS IMPRESSIVE FIGURE WHO SPEAKS ENGLISH GLIBLY AND CORRECTLY WITH SLIGHT PORTUGUESE ACCENT. HE APPEARED WELCOME RENEWED CONTACT WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND PROMISED BE AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH US AGAIN WHEN HE NEXT VISITS ZAMBIA, PROBABLY IN MARCH. WHEN I SAID WE HAVE VERY ABLE CONGEN, THOMAS KILLORAN, IN LUANDA WITH WHOM I HAD

PREVIOUSLY WORKED, SAVIMBI EXPRESSED HOPE HE
WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET HIM. SAVIMBI
DUE TO LEAVE THIS WEEKEND FOR NOVA LISBOA, ANGOLA,
ABOARD ZAMBIAN AIR FORCE PLANE IN COMPANY
LARGE PRESS DELEGATION.
WILKOWSKI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, AGREEMENTS, LIBERATION FRONTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, CABINDA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LUSAKA00147
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750027-0377
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750123/aaaaaufd.tel
Line Count: 229
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH JONAS SAVIMBI
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, AO, PO, UNITA, MPLA, (SAVIMBI, JONAS), (NETO, AGOSTINHO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006